Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 02864 110728Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 /092 W
----------078991 111945Z /47 42
R 110534Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3316
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2864

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, ELAB, MY, SN
SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN CRITICISM OF SINGAPORE

REF: SINGAPORE 1581

1. AS IN SINGAPORE, THE ONLY ONE OF THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE APRIL 6 STRAITS TIMES EDITORIAL WHICH HAS RECEIVED MUCH PUBLICITY HERE IS THE SELANGOR GRADUATES' REPORT ON THE "PLIGHT" OF MALAYSIAN WORKERS IN SINGAPORE. THIS ISSUE WAS GIVEN MODERATE PRESS PLAY WHEN IT FIRST CAME OUT, BUT WAS NOT OVERPLAYED. WE THINK THE ATTENTION IT DID RECEIVE WAS AS MUCH RELATED TO THE FACT THAT THE LOWER HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT WAS IN SESSION AS TO THE COMING ELECTIONS.

2. INTERESTINGLY, THE OPPOSITION, CHINESE-BASED DEMOCRATIC ACTION PARTY (DAP) MADE AS MUCH OF THE MALAYSIAN WORKERS IN SINGAPORE ISSUE AS DID MALAY POLITICIANS. WHILE THE MAJORITY OF
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PAGE 02 KUALA 02864 110728Z

THESE WORKERS MAY BE ETHNIC CHINESE AS THE DAP CLAIMED, MANY OF THEM ARE MALAYS AND BAITING SINGAPORE IS TRADITIONALLY A MALY POLITICAL TACTIC. ALSO, THE DAP, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY FORMED AS A MALAYSIAN BRANCH OF THE SINGAPORE PEOPLES ACTION PARTY (PAP), DOES NOT NORMALLY TAKE SINGAPORE TO TASK. HOWEVER, THE DAP HAS

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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

RECENTLY BEEN UNDER ATTACK BY A BREAKAWAY MP
FOR ITS CLOSE TIES WITH SINGAPORE, AND MAY HAVE
DECIDED THIS ISSUE COULD BE USED TO DISSOCIATE
ITSELF FROM SINGAPORE AND AT THE SAME TIME
DEMONSTRATE SOCIALIST WORKERS' SOLIDARITY.
MILLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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TAGS: PEPR, ELAB, MY, SN, DAP
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Type: TE
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